

Introducing the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease

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Parker Street Waste Site

Public Involvement Planning meeting

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U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry

What is ATSDR

- ❑ **A federal public health agency**
- ❑ **US Department of Health and Human Services**
- ❑ **Advisory**
 - ❑ **Not regulatory, not enforcement**
- ❑ **Human health issues from hazardous waste**
- ❑ **Recommends responsive public health action to reduce or eliminate hazard**
 - ❑ **Use the best available science**
 - ❑ **Use state-of-the-art public health practice**

What does ATSDR do?

❑ Advises

- US EPA and other federal partners
- State and Tribal partners
- Community members and other interested parties
- Spills or Releases of hazardous substances - emergencies

❑ Educates

- Physicians and other health care professionals
- Communities

What does ATSDR do?

- ❑ **Publishes *Toxicological Profiles***
 - Summaries – ToxFAQs
- ❑ **Conducts health studies**
- ❑ **Maintains registries**
 - TCE
 - PCE
 - Benzene
 - “Dioxin”
 - World Trade Center

How does ATSDR advise?

❑ **public health assessments**

- Public Health Assessments
- Health Consultations
- Letter Health Consultations
- Technical Assistance

❑ **Public meetings**

How does ATSDR become involved?

- ❑ **National Priority List (NPL) – Superfund sites**
- ❑ **Request**
 - Government agency
 - The public

What is ATSDR's public health assessment process?

- ❑ Review available information and data**
- ❑ Identify how people might come into contact with contaminants - pathway**
- ❑ Are people coming into contact with contaminants? That is, is the pathway complete?**
- ❑ Will the amount of contaminant getting to people affect their health?**
 - Not harmful**
 - Cannot be determined**
 - Harmful**
- ❑ Provide conclusion, recommendations and a public health action plan**

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Questions?

For more information please contact Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry

4770 Buford Hwy. NE, Chamblee, GA 30341

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The findings and conclusions in this report are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.



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“What does the current study consist of?”

- ❑ Two documents are being written**
- ❑ One document is a Health Consultation**
 - ❑ Walsh Field surface soils only**
- ❑ One document is a Public Health Assessment**
 - ❑ All of Parker Street Waste Site, *except***
 - ❑ The interior of the High School**
 - ❑ Areas sampled after 2008**

How is the information being collected?

- ❑ Information (sampling data) that is on the City of New Bedford website**
- ❑ Other publicly available information**

Timeline and public meeting

❑ Walsh Field Health Consultation

- ❑ In the review process**
- ❑ Final document release depends on the comments received, etc.**
- ❑ Distribution of information**
 - ❑ Method and date to be determined**
 - ❑ Public repository**

❑ PSWS Public Health Assessment

- ❑ Being written**
- ❑ A public comment draft will be released**
- ❑ The final document will be released after the comments have been addressed**

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